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34. (New) The method according to claim 32, wherein the water is injected as one of a vapor and an aerosol.

35. (New) The method according to claim 32, further comprising the step of supplying compressed air to at least one of a process gas between a carbon monoxide oxidizing unit and the fuel-cell unit and a cathode of the fuel-cell unit.

36. (New) The method according to claim 32, further comprising the steps of: separating water from at least one of a cathode-exhaust stream of the fuel-cell unit and an anode-exhaust stream of the fuel-cell unit; and supplying the separated water to the reforming process.

37. (New) The method according to claim 32, further comprising the steps of: burning an exhaust gas from an anode of the fuel-cell unit; and supplying waste heat generated by the burning step to the reforming process.

38. (New) The method according to claim 32, further comprising the steps of: burning the raw material; and supplying heat energy generated by the raw material burning step to the reforming process.

39. (New) The method according to claim 32, wherein the raw material includes a hydrogen-containing substance.

40. (New) The method according to claim 39, wherein the hydrogen-containing substance includes at least one of methanol and gasoline.

REMARKS

This Preliminary Amendment cancels, without prejudice, claims 1 - 16 in the underlying PCT Application No. PCT/EP99/03378 and adds new claims 17 - 40. The new claims, inter alia, conform the claims to U.S. Patent and Trademark Office rules and do not add any new matter to the application.

The above amendments to the specification and the abstract conform the same to U.S. Patent and Trademark Office rules and do not introduce any new matter into the application.

The underlying PCT Application No. PCT/EP99/03378 includes an International Search Report, dated October 4, 1999, a copy of which is included. The Search Report includes a list of documents that were considered by the Examiner in the underlying PCT application.

The underlying PCT Application No. PCT/EP99/03378 also includes an International Preliminary Examination Report dated April 26, 2000, a copy of which is included, including a translation.

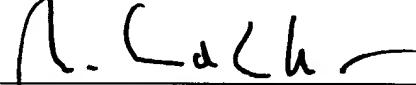
It is respectfully submitted that the subject matter of the present application is new, non-obvious and useful. Prompt consideration and allowance of the application are respectfully requested.

Respectfully submitted,

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